

Dear Stony Brook Families,

We had a great Cookout today, despite the weather. Mr. McElhinney and I cooked burgers and hot dogs outside and the students had a slightly extended lunch in the cafeteria. We couldn't be outside due to the rain, but there was fun to be had with some music and trivia. Some of our 6th graders had song requests and there was some singing and dancing fun, as well. Yesterday Pounce visited some advisory classes as a surprise guest on our Stony Brook - Westford Spirit Day.

On Thursday, we had our second fire drill of the year and students did a great job of exiting the building swiftly and quietly. Next week we will be reviewing the safety plans and evacuation procedures to our two rally points with students in Advisory on Monday and Tuesday. The following week we will have a practice evacuation to each of the rally points. While we know the importance of everyone knowing the procedures in the unlikely event of an emergency, we know that it can cause some anxiety. When we practice our evacuations, we will only use language that the 'building is on alert' and direct students to evacuate. We will assure them all that it is a drill and that it is practice. We work very hard to ensure that our students know what to do in the event of an emergency without causing unnecessary worry. We wanted to be sure you were aware of the upcoming information sharing and the practice evacuations in case your child has questions.

Our 8th graders had a presentation from Nashoba Valley Technical High School today to learn more about this opportunity. On Monday, we will send out more information to 8th grade families about the optional field trip to the school and the application process for those students who are or might be interested in applying for 9th grade.

We hope you enjoy a relaxing weekend!

Sincerely,
Allison and Rick

Below is important information for families:

Health Forms

There are a number of required health forms that we are currently collecting:

**Please be sure to return your emergency card as soon as possible.

**The online forms for life threatening allergies and asthma can be found on the website and by clicking [HERE](#).

**All 7th graders need an updated physical with immunizations. Please email or send in a copy of your child's physical to sodonnell@westfordk12.us

Grades 6 and 8 Health Classes

If your child is in grade 6 or grade 8, please read the linked letters regarding units of study in Health class and about opting out of certain aspects of the curriculum.

**Click here for the [Grade 6 Letter](#).

**Click here for the [Grade 8 Letter](#).

Communication with Teachers

Throughout a typical school day, teachers received multiple emails and messages from families, colleagues, the office, and students. Please understand that teachers do their best to reply to communications within 24 hours of receiving them, but it will not necessarily be an immediate response during the same school day. We encourage all staff to allow themselves to separate from school-related communication in the evenings and over the weekend. All of our staff have different commitments that take up their non-school time, including families, other jobs, and other responsibilities. We appreciate your understanding and patience.

8th Grade Baby Photos for Yearbook

If you would like to include a baby photo of your 8th grader in the Stony Brook Yearbook, please upload your photo [HERE](#)! Deadline is 10/18. Yearbooks can be [purchased for a 10% discount](#) until 10/31.

Yearbook

You can get a 10% discount if you purchase a 2023-2024 yearbook until October 31, 2023. Students will bring home fliers as well. Click on this link: <https://www.treering.com/purchase?PassCode=1015224146213733>

Stony Brook's Instagram

If you would like to follow us on Instagram to see what is happening at Stony Brook, please follow us at @sbpanthers.

Attendance - Reporting Absences, Early Dismissals, and Tardies

If your child will be **absent from school, please call the main office at 978-692-2708 and press 1 before 8:30 am to report the absence.

If you need to **dismiss your child early from school, please send in a note with your child on the morning of the dismissal to bring to the main office so they can receive a dismissal slip. A parent/guardian will need to sign the child out at the main office when they pick them up.

If your child arrives at school **after 7:35 am, they need to report to the office to sign in and receive a pass to their class. If your child will arrive **tardy to school after 8:30 am**, please call the main office at 978-692-2708 and press 1 before 8:30 am to report the tardy.

Stony Brook Events Calendar

Throughout the school year we post important events and information on the [Stony Brook Events Calendar](#). This includes holidays and no school days, evening events for families, and after school activities.

PTO "No Fuss" Fundraiser

Thank you to everyone who has already contributed to the SBSPTO's [ANNUAL "NO-FUSS" FUNDRAISER](#). If you have not yet had a chance to contribute, please [DONATE HERE](#) using PayPal or a credit or debit card. No PayPal account is required. All donations are tax-deductible and collected funds go toward sponsoring events and items that benefit the students of Stony Brook School.

We have EXTENDED OUR DEADLINE TO October 31, 2023

The suggested donation is \$60 PER STUDENT or \$100 PER FAMILY, but any amount is greatly appreciated.

Please click on the link to [DONATE HERE](#) using PayPal or a credit or debit card. No PayPal account is required. **If you prefer to donate by check** you can send it to the Main Office. Checks should be made **payable to 'WEPTO-Stony Brook School'**. Kindly put it in an envelope addressed to SBSPTO and include your name and email address in it.



Learn More about SBSPTO [HERE](#)

Trunk or Treat - 10/27

The event will take place on October 27th from 5-7pm at the Westford Academy Senior Parking Lot. Elementary and middle school students will be trick-or-treating out of car trunks that are set up and hosted by various Westford Academy student organizations. There will be candy and treats in the trunks! The students who participate in this event are encouraged to dress in their Halloween costumes.